

00684.003286 (684.3286)



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: Robert B. Beatty
HIROOMI MATSUZAKI)
: Group Art Unit: 2852
Application No.: 09/988,342)
:
Filed: November 19, 2001)
:
For: PROCESS CARTRIDGE, ELEC-) February 10, 2003
TROPHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGE :
FORMING APPARATUS AND)
CARTRIDGE MOUNTING :
METHOD)

#9/PDX
Adams
2/26/03

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed. These documents were recently cited in the attached Japanese Office Action issued in a foreign counterpart application on October 25, 2002. The concise explanation of relevance of the non-English language documents is found in the attached English Abstracts thereof.

In the Japanese Office Action, the Japanese Examiner commented on the citations as follows:

02/12/2003 ZJUHR1 00000020 09988342

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“Reference 1 discloses that the process cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus in the longitudinal direction although the photosensitive drum while supporting the process cartridge by guiding portions provided in the main assembly. Thereafter, the process cartridge is lowered by which it is mounted in the main assembly. It is apparent that the mounted process cartridge is operated by the driving force supplied from the main assembly of the apparatus, and therefore, the process cartridge is provided with a driving force receiving portion.

The incorporation of the electrophotographic photosensitive member and charging member in addition to the developer accommodating portion handed the developing member in the process cartridge, and the specific position where the guiding members are provided, are matter of design choice.

Lowering the positioning portion provided in the process cartridge toward the main assembly to support the positioning portion by a positioning recess, is well-known as disclosed in Reference 2 and 3.”

REQUIRED FEE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

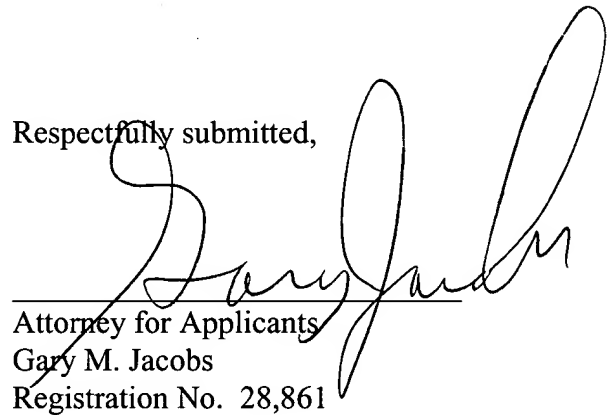
Applicants enclose a check for the required fee of \$180 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2).

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Gary M. Jacobs
Registration No. 28,861

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
GMJ/smj

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